

§ 13.76

38 CFR Ch. I (7–1–00 Edition)

§ 13.76 Appeals from Veterans Services Officer's determination under 38 U.S.C. 5503(b)(2).

(a) *Notification.* The Veterans Services Officer will be responsible for notification of action taken and the right to initiate an appeal by filing a Notice of Disagreement and of the time limits within which such notice may be filed (§19.109 of this chapter) when he or she determines that:

(1) The dependent is not in need.

(2) The needs of the dependent parent are to be met from the veteran's estate or from Personal Funds of Patients and no payments or partial payments will be made for the dependent parents' support from appropriated funds.

(3) No award from appropriated funds for care and maintenance for the veteran in a non-Department of Veterans Affairs hospital will be made, and that the veteran's estate will have to defray the cost.

(b) *Appeals.* Part 19 of this chapter will be followed in connection with appeals to the Board of Veterans Appeals from determinations of the Veterans Services Officer. Appeals may be initiated by a dependent parent on questions of need and payments for his or her support from appropriated funds, and by a fiduciary for the disallowance of the use of appropriated funds for the veteran's institutional care and maintenance.

(c) *Statement of the case.* When a Notice of Disagreement is filed, the Veterans Services Officer will be responsible for furnishing the claimant and the claimant's representative with a Statement of the Case and such notification regarding the filing of an appeal as is provided for in §§19.114(b) and 19.115 of this chapter.

[40 FR 54249, Nov. 21, 1975]

§ 13.77 Administrative review of the Veterans Services Officer's determination made under 38 U.S.C. 5503(b)(2).

(a) *Veterans Services Officer (revisions).*

(1) The Veterans Services Officer may revise any previous determination upon review of the evidence of record, provided a specific finding is made in writing that it was clearly and unmistakably erroneous.

(2) The Veterans Services Officer may revise a previous determination upon receipt of new evidence.

(b) *Chief Benefits Director.* Upon request for further review by the dependent parent, the Chief Benefits Director or designee will review and may revise the determination of the Veterans Services Officer as to the amount to be paid from Personal Funds of Patients for the support of the dependent parent, predicated upon need.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501)

[40 FR 54249, Nov. 21, 1975]

§ 13.100 Supervision of fiduciaries.

(a) *Federal fiduciaries.* In Federal fiduciary cases, the Veterans Services Officer may, when he or she deems it necessary for the protection of the beneficiary's interests:

(1) Require an accounting, formal or informal, of Department of Veterans Affairs benefits paid.

(2) Terminate the appointment of a Federal fiduciary and appoint a successor Federal fiduciary.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 5502)

(b) *Court-appointed fiduciaries.* In court-appointed fiduciary cases, the Veterans Services Officer will take such informal action as may be necessary to assure that the needs of the beneficiary are provided for and Department of Veterans Affairs benefits are prudently administered and adequately protected.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501)

(c) *Unsatisfactory conditions.* In any case where a fiduciary fails to render a satisfactory account or has collected or paid, or is attempting to collect or pay, fees, commissions, or allowances that are illegal or inequitable or in excess of those allowed by law, or has failed to use Department of Veterans Affairs funds for the benefit of the beneficiary or the beneficiary's dependents, or has otherwise failed or neglected to properly execute the duties of his or her trust, and informal efforts by the Veterans Services Officer to correct the situation prove unsuccessful, the case will be referred to the Regional Counsel. In such cases the Veterans Services